

During Pat's amazing community career she served as Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Children's Arts Carnival, Treasurer of the Hamilton Heights-West Harlem Community Preservation Organization, Member of the Board of the Harlem Venture Group, Treasurer of the Hamilton Heights Homeowners Association (HHHA) and Chair of HHHA's Annual House and Garden Tour Committee.

Let me share with you a poem Patricia Jones authored in the 4th Grade, entitled I am Thankful. "I am thankful for many things. One is that I have a nice home and wonderful parents in them. Some children overseas don't have homes as we do, and some do not even have parents. I am thankful for the schools we have in New York because some children in other countries don't have schools and need the education badly. Many people in the United States are grateful for the world peace we have. In some countries people have to do what their leaders say to do, and they don't have the right to do what they want to, and to tell their feelings. I am very grateful for all the things that I have, and I hope that many people all over the world have the things that I have."

Mr. Speaker, Pat Jones was a strong black woman, who understood the true meaning of commitment, sacrifice, hard work and effort. She now takes her place alongside our other Freedom Sisters of extraordinary women who, while less prominent in the media, shaped much of the spirit and substance of civil rights, social and economic justice in America, just as our beloved Pat Jones, whose important historic contribution to the West Harlem community will surely be missed. I ask you and my colleagues to join me in this very special congressional salute to West Harlem Advocate, Patricia Arlene Jones.

HONORING THE DELTA BIG FOUR

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an extraordinary gospel group, The Delta Big Four of Lambert, Mississippi. A group that believes in praising God in song.

The members of the Delta Big Four were nurtured in a Christian home and taught the word of God. Their parents, the late Willie, Sr. and Daisy Nobel McCray, had sixteen children and family time and music were important in the home. Most evenings the family composed and sang spiritual songs. The family used the old washboard for music.

In the 1950s, the group was called the Delta Big Four because the group originally began with four members: Ollie, Sr. and Melissa, James Lee, and Alberta. Although other members were added, the name remained. Rosie joined the group as one of the leads; she also could write and arrange. Because of her ability to write songs to fit the group, the group developed a uniqueness of their own.

At the ages of four and five, the original members travelled to various churches, towns, and states praising God. Years later, they were blessed to appear on the radio stations with the likes of Theo "Bless My Bones" Wade of WDIA in Memphis, Tennessee and

Early Wright of WROX in Clarksdale, Mississippi, the first African-American Radio Personalities in the South and on WQMA with James Figgs and James Wilson. The exposure truly benefited this young and talented group of singers. They soon had their own radio programs on both WROX and WQMA. The group was featured regularly on Early Wright's Gospel Extravaganzas. Major recording artists touring the Delta and the Mid South sought them out as an opening act, including the Mighty Cloud of Joy, Staple Singers, Pilgrim Jubilee, Swam Silvertones, Dixie Hummingbirds, and the list goes on.

In the early 1960s, the Delta Big Four was one of the first local Quartet gospel groups to introduce musical instruments to their performances. They recruited a young but talented high school student, Larry Sims, as guitarist. Prior to that time, most local artists sang a cappella. Although many churches were not accustomed to instruments other than pianos, it turned out to be one of the best decisions they would ever make. Very soon, groups from all over were following their lead. Larry trained Ollie and James Lee to play the lead and bass guitars, respectively, before leaving the group.

They got the attention of Oris May, a Memphis television personality that hosted a gospel singing show on WMC-TV Channel 5 and a producer for Peacock Records. In 1967, the group recorded its first record, "Story of the Blind Man." Later came "Lord, Guide Me"; "Lord Why I'm Traveling"; "Me and the Devil Had a Wrestle, But I Won"; "Standing on a Solid Rock"; and "Lord If I am Too High, Bring Me Down".

Other family members were added throughout the years: Ruthie Ann, Ollie, Jr. and Andrew, the sons of Ollie, Sr. and Melissa replaced Ollie, Sr. and James Lee on the guitars. The group decided to add James Edward because his voice and style fit most of the songs Rosie wrote. This also proved to be a wise move for the group. Ollie, Jr. soon thereafter entered the ministry and left the group. Fortunately for the group, James Edward was an accomplished guitarist. The group added another musician, Quincy Twilley on drums. Every member sang lead and chorus, the mix they were seeking, the catalog of songs and the personnel to meet the demand of the group. The group has spent more than fifty years performing traditional quartet gospel music. Today, most of their time is spent in the choir at Sykes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church and working with the next generation of the Delta Big Four, led by Tiffany Griffin and Larry Strickland, Jr., who are the great grandchildren of the original members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Delta Big Four as an inspirational gospel group.

MANDATORY OPERATIONAL CONTROL REPORTING AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 27, 2012

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to debate H.R. 6025, the "Manda-

tory Operational Control Reporting and Performance Measures Act of 2012," which provides for annual reports to Congress from the Secretary of Homeland Security on the status of operational control of the international land and maritime borders of the United States, as well as, unlawful entries through those borders.

As a Ranking Member of Homeland Security Committee Transportation Subcommittee, I recognize the essential role that the Committee and this Congress play in securing our borders from terrorism, drug trafficking, and illegal immigration. This goal involves the substantial efforts of federal, state, and local law enforcement, as well as Congressional creation of effective border policy. I recognize that this bill seeks to provide additional information to Congress that will be helpful to that process going forward.

Section 2 of the Secure Fence Act of 2006 requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to "take all actions the Secretary determines necessary and appropriate to achieve and maintain operational control over the entire international land and maritime border of the United States." The section defines operational control to mean "the prevention of all unlawful entries into the United States, including entries by terrorists, other unlawful aliens, instruments of terrorism, narcotics, and other contraband."

As the Representative for the 18th Congressional District in Houston, Texas, border security and integrity are of paramount importance to both me and my constituents. The Port of Houston is a 25-mile-long complex of public and private facilities located just a few hours' sailing time from the Gulf of Mexico. Its services link Houston with 1,053 ports in 203 countries.

The port is ranked first in the United States in foreign waterborne commerce, second in total tonnage, and sixth in the world. It generates about \$11 billion annually and provides over 287,000 direct and indirect jobs in Texas. As the port plays such a large role in the US economy it is crucial that we maintain its integrity and security.

H.R. 6025 is designed to gauge the performance of the Department in achieving operational control, so that Congress may provide additional legislation, tools, and resources as necessary.

More specifically, this bill will provide for annual reports on (1) the number of miles of the international land and maritime border between the United States and Canada and the United States and Mexico that are under operational DHS control, cumulatively and by sector; and (2) the estimated number of individuals who unlawfully enter the United States annually, the estimated number of individuals unlawfully present in the United States as of the date of each such report, and the number of individuals unlawfully present in the United States who voluntarily exited the United States in the preceding year.

Border security and immigration enforcement are enormous tasks requiring extensive resources. The Federal Government aims to, and must, work with State and local authorities to share the responsibilities and the common goal of a safe and secure America.

Despite the many examples of successful initiative and cooperative efforts, there are plenty of legitimate concerns that must be taken into account when discussing the best

way to ensure that America's borders are secure. Significant improvements in technology and infrastructure have been made to the efforts the Federal Government is making to improve border security and immigration enforcement. Reports like the one proposed today are important to achieving our long term goals.

FAYE GRIFFIN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Faye Griffin for her outstanding service to our community.

Faye has served Jefferson County as Treasurer, Clerk and Recorder and was most recently reelected as County Commissioner for District 1.

Faye is extensively involved in multiple community initiatives. Currently, Faye serves on the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District Board, is a council member for the Head Start Policy Council and Rocky Flats Stewardship Council, as well as the E-911 Board and Noxious Weed Advisory Board. Faye is on the Boundary Control Commission, the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation, the Criminal Justice Strategic Planning Committee and the C-470 Corridor Coalition.

Among Faye's many accomplishments and board duties, she was the driving force behind the Child and Youth Leadership Commission and pioneered the statute to establish the commission. She is currently serving on the Child and Youth Leadership Commission board.

I extend my deepest congratulations to my friend Faye Griffin for her well deserved honor by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County and thank her for her many contributions to our community. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO ERIC MATZNER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a good friend of mine, Eric Matzner, of Palm Springs, California, who recently passed away. He loved his family, and his country. His story of escaping the Nazis, and then building a successful life in the U.S. is a wonderful story about America. The following was written by his daughter Jill:

It was Austria, 1938. Hitler had terrorized this country and will have killed over six million people before he is through. My father's family is one that has lost many. Just six of his family members ultimately survive. Those wishing to immigrate to the United States from Austria must do so by boat, and only with the vouching of an approved sponsor.

My father's memories as a six year old are vivid; memories of the German storm troopers marching down the street in their trademark "Goosestep" fashion. As they stopped, they would raise their right arm, hand straight out

and yell "Heil Hitler." Any civilian who did not address authority or Hitler in this way was either beaten or killed. Those who survive must wear yellow arm bands bearing the Star of David to separate the Jews from the rest of the population.

Eric's father owned a jewelry store. Before long, the store was taken from him, forcing his parents to make the biggest decision of their lives. Should they stay, not knowing what lay ahead? Or, should they sacrifice virtually everything they've ever known and flee for the freedom of America? They stayed hidden until they escaped Austria on November 9, 1938. As it turns out, history will remember this night as Kristallnacht, the "Night of Broken Glass." The attack against Jews that evening was swift. Many were killed and thousands incarcerated in concentration camps. Eric vividly remembered the sound of broken glass and the smell of burning buildings. On that night they left Austria behind.

They found themselves on a boat, headed for the country of which they had only heard and dreamed of to start a new life. It was a treacherous trip. Steerage was cramped and miserable. Many people become violently ill throughout the trek across the ocean. They were allowed to take one bag each. Few valuables, possessions or family treasures survived the voyage.

After the long ocean journey, a large figure slowly appeared in the distance: the Statue of Liberty. It was a sight that Eric would remember forever.

As a young man, Eric excelled at baseball and football. He met Elaine Heritage (my mother) at Drexel University in 1951. They dated for a few years and later married. It was a challenge at first with my father being Jewish and my mother being Methodist, but they overcame these differences. Due to my father's childhood experiences, his four children were taught that differences in people are to be embraced, not condemned. It is a wonderful part of our heritage to have been raised with both religions and such diversity.

Eric was an early salesman for TV Guide, and held jobs in advertising in the 1960s. He was an original "Mad Man!" His creative selling was legendary, and influenced many young salespeople who are all successful today.

As I think about my father's journey, I believe he was alive because of the foresight of his parents to escape Austria, a strong will to live, modern medicine and the drugs that were available to him. If not for these, I do not believe my father would have lived to be 80 years old and to have been a warm, loving husband to my mother, Elaine, a father to his four children, a grandfather to his five grandchildren and a great grandfather to my son's son.

No one, not even my father, could imagine that he would see the year 2012. Although he was immobile in his final years, he never complained. He lost most of his short term memory, but retained most of his long term memories. With his ever present smile, we smiled with him, when on nearly every day he said, "I'm telling you, this might be the best day of my life."

IN CELEBRATION OF THE HARLEM ARTS ALLIANCE ADVOCACY WEEK 2012 "HARLEM AT THE CROSSROADS: SUSTAINING OUR ARTS AND CULTURAL RESOURCES"

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Harlem Arts Alliance, Inc. as they celebrated their Sixth Annual Arts Advocacy Week 2012 at The City College of New York Aaron Davis Hall, The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The Manhattan Neighborhood Network's El Barrio Firehouse Community Center, The Studio Museum in Harlem, The ImageNation and The Dwyer Cultural Center. From Monday, October 1 through Sunday, October 7, the Harlem Arts Alliance (HAA) presented a seven day series of mostly free events, designed to elevate the platform for Harlem's illustrious arts and cultural scene and to renew enthusiasm and support for its great cultural institutions and artists. HAA recognizes the correlation between a community's vitality and economic health and its vibrant cultural life and is committed to fostering the development of Harlem's artists, arts institutions and cultural organizations for the benefit of artists, residents, local businesses and tourists alike.

The HARLEM Arts Alliance (HAA) is a not-for-profit arts service organization committed to nurturing the artistic growth, capacity, and development of artists and arts organizations based primarily in Harlem and the greater Harlem communities. With a membership of over 750 individual artists and arts organizations, HAA plays an essential role by helping to build the resources, network, and capacity of its richly diverse association. HAA also maintains strong partnerships with numerous arts organization and institutions throughout New York State, the region, and the nation to maintain vital collaborative efforts to promote the arts in communities.

This year's theme "Harlem at the Crossroads: Sustaining Our Arts and Cultural Resources," highlights the need to maintain and preserve some of the city's most stellar arts organizations, artists, individuals and entities and to help them to secure and sustain the critical resources needed to continue their missions. HAA Chairman Voza Rivers and Executive Director Michael Unthink have billed this year's advocacy week as the Harlem Arts Summit. The undertaking involves the collaboration of key Harlem arts institutions, artists and arts leaders creating an exciting array of events showcasing the Uptown arts landscape.

On Monday, October 1, the Harlem Arts Summit honored three extraordinary cultural icons who have contributed greatly to African American Arts and Culture, the Village of Harlem and our great nation: activist and actor Danny Glover, legendary theatrical producer Vy Higginsen and pioneering arts producer and consultant Mikki Shepard.

Danny Lebern Glover was born in San Francisco, California, the son of Carrie (née Hunley) and James Glover. His parents, postal workers, were active in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People